

# CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE

Minutes of a Meeting held in Room H-769, Sir George Williams Campus, at 4:00 P.M.  
on Monday, 1 December 1980

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PRESENT: Dr. R. Breen, Chairman; Prof. R. Allison, Mr. D. Arfin, Mr. L. Burogano, Ms. S. Crompton, Dr. E. Enos, Mr. M. Flynn, Ms. A. Kerby, Mr. A. Lajoie, Prof. J. Macaluso, Mr. R. Philip, Mr. J. Revay, Mr. J.A. Sproule, Ms. D. Brundage (Secretary)

ABSENT: Mr. B. Counihan, Ms. M.E. Diacoumacos, Mr. R. Javitch, Mr. P. Mehta

GUESTS: Mr. D. Boisvert, Ms. N. Cullen, Ms. J. Johnstone, Mr. D. Ramsay

## Chairman's Remarks

80.12.1.0 A quorum of members being present, the Chairman opened the meeting and stated that he had no particular remarks to offer.

## Approval of the Agenda

80.12.2.0 The Chairman then requested approval of the Agenda, whereupon Prof. Macaluso MOVED and Ms. Kerby SECONDED that the Agenda for the meeting of 1 December 1980 be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

## Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of 3 November 1980

80.12.3.0 The Chairman then requested comments on, corrections to or approval of the Minutes of the meeting of 3 November 1980. In connection with paragraph 4 of item 80.11.4.4 which appeared on page 5 of the Minutes, Mr. Revay enquired what information Dean Flynn had regarding the academically ineligible students mentioned therein. According to the Registrar, Dean Flynn responded, some sixteen students who are in double-failure standing are taking part in University activities. There being no further comments or corrections offered, Mr. Sproule MOVED and Ms. Kerby SECONDED that the Minutes of the meeting of 3 November 1980 be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

80.12.3.1 The Chairman noted that the validity of the statistics quoted by Ms. Morey and reported in item 80.11.3.2 of the Minutes is in some doubt. It is possible that the data supplied to her were not correct. Consequently, Prof. Hamblin has been asked to investigate in order that the correct count may be established.

## Report of the Priorities and Finance Committee

80.12.4.0 At the Chairman's request, Ms. Brundage reported briefly on the progress of the Priorities and Finance Committee (CCSL 80-12-D1). \*The Committee has had its first meeting, will develop a recommendation with regard to disposition of the surplus and has set a timetable with regard to this recommendation and development of the 1981/82 budget proposal. At its next meeting, the Committee will establish the criteria by which it will evaluate the various proposals it has and will receive with regard to disposition of the surplus. At a subsequent meeting, individual requests will be studied and a decision made as to the package the Committee will put forward for Council's consideration at its first meeting after the Christmas break.



Second Annual Ombudsman's Report

- 80.12.5.0 The Chairman drew the attention of members to the section headed "Privacy in the University", beginning on page 6 of the Ombudsman's Report (CCSL 80-12-D2), and said that he would like opinions on the two points raised therein. With regard to the question of whether or not the present opting-out formula used in connection with the publication of CUSA's student directory is sufficient to protect an individual's right to privacy, Dr. Breen said, several questions arise: is there a serious problem? Should the University transmit the information to CUSA? Should CUSA publish the information? If the directory were not published, would CUSA need the information?
- 80.12.5.1 Mr. Arfin replied that the directory is very useful, although he acknowledged that the placing of one opting-out advertisement might not provide sufficient opportunity for students to do so. However, the opting-in concept recommended by the Ombudsman's Report would be very difficult to implement and would not produce satisfactory results. Ms. Kerby pointed out that the directory is the basis of student participation in most of the student associations and clubs. Moreover, Ms. Crompton added, the directory is not a public document; it is a University publication and is not distributed beyond the Concordia community. Mr. Revay stated that although it is not planned to publish a directory next year for financial reasons, CUSA needs to know the names of its members for many other purposes. In response to the suggestion that students might be given the opportunity to complete an opt-out form at registration, Prof. Macaluso offered the opinion that the institution of such a procedure would "self destruct" because there is already too much pressure on students at that time.
- 80.12.5.2 Prof. Macaluso went on to enquire as to whether or not student records were, in fact, widely available, since he has had trouble obtaining them for advising purposes. The Chairman regretted that it is so difficult for appropriate University people to obtain this information; he would like transcripts, for instance, to be provided to the academic advisors. It was Mr. Revay's observation that records are hard to get because the student data system is inadequate, not because a policy of confidentiality prevails.
- 80.12.5.3 The Chairman then asked members as to the response they wished to make to the Ombudsman's opting-in formula. He suggested Council could say that, while it agreed that individual privacy must be protected, some more effective and efficient method of opting-out than presently exists would be preferable to the opting-in concept. In response to the statement that if publication of the directory were to cease, the question would be academic anyway, Mr. Revay said that the decision taken for next year should not be regarded as a precedent. Directory publication might well be reintroduced in future years.
- 80.12.5.4 Prof. Macaluso suggested that an effective method of distributing opt-out forms would be through the academic advisors who would be diligent in this regard and have the advantage of being generally well-regarded by students. This possibility, of course, would only apply to new students. However,



Ms. Crompton pointed out that forms could be left with departmental secretaries for distribution to students in other years. The following MOTION was thereupon MOVED by Mr. Revay, SECONDED and CARRIED:

RESOLVED: that the Concordia Council on Student Life concurs with the concern for individual privacy expressed in the Second Annual Ombudsman's Report. It therefore recommends that the publication of a student directory by the Concordia University Students' Association be suspended until the introduction of an improved opting-out formula is implemented through the use of an appropriate form.

- 80.12.5.5 The question of whether or not the University should identify its employees for all purposes by use of social insurance numbers was considered to be of concern mainly to staff rather than students. Some sentiment was expressed for the introduction of a separate numbering system, but the administrative implications were not clear. Moreover, Dean Flynn said, before Council made any recommendation in this regard, the numbers and pattern of complaint should be determined. The Chairman undertook to discuss this issue with the Registrar and other administrators and report back to Council. In Mr. Sproule's opinion, the cost of introducing an additional numbering system might well be prohibitive; in any event, predictions are that Canadians will eventually be identified by a single number throughout their lives. Nevertheless, Prof. Macaluso observed, one of the rights guaranteed by the Quebec Charter of Human Rights is privacy.

#### Host Program, Concordia and International Students

- 80.12.6.0 The Chairman referred to the letter (CCSL 80-12-D3) from the new International Student Advisor on the Loyola Campus, James de Gaspé Bonar, announcing the introduction of a program whereby professors and staff would be encouraged to entertain international students in their homes during the Christmas period. Dr. Breen felt that Mr. Bonar's project was a worthy endeavour and warranted Council's support; however, he pointed out, it is a very big undertaking and will involve a tremendous amount of work. Ms. Kerby reported that, although a letter had been sent to all professors and staff on the Loyola Campus, only two responses had been forthcoming. Consequently, a telephone campaign is underway. In Dean Flynn's opinion, because the weight of numbers is so heavy, a good approach would be to ask the International Student Advisors from both campuses to meet early in the new year so that a mechanism could be set up to operate this program next year. Ms. Kerby noted that it is intended to continue the project throughout the coming year by building up a file of people who are willing to participate.
- 80.12.6.1 Mr. Burogano reported that the Italian Students' Association has raised approximately \$2,000 to aid victims of the recent earthquake in Italy. He is in contact with interested people at McGill and the Université du Québec à Montréal who are working to ensure that all monies contributed reach their destination.

#### Games Room, Transfer of Jurisdiction

- 80.12.7.0 Mr. Arfin reported that letters had been exchanged between CUSA and the Athletics Department in which CUSA's desire to assume jurisdiction over



the games room, H-733, on the Sir George Williams Campus and Athletics' willingness to cede responsibility were confirmed. Subsequently, Dean Flynn MOVED and Dr. Enos SECONDED as follows:

RESOLVED: that jurisdiction over the games room, H-733, on the Sir George Williams Campus be transferred from the Athletics Department to the Concordia University Students' Association, effective immediately.

MOTION CARRIED.

Information Session - Health Services

- 80.12.8.0 The Chairman introduced Council's guests for the evening, Ms. N. Cullen, Supervisor of Health Services on the Loyola Campus and Ms. J. Johnstone, Head Nurse at the Health Centre on the Sir George Williams Campus, who had agreed to speak to Council about their respective operations.
- 80.12.8.1 Ms. Cullen's presentation consisted of a slide show which had been put together for use at a student services' conference held some time earlier. The history of Health Services on the Loyola Campus, which began in 1966, and the philosophy which has evolved over the years was outlined by Ms. Cullen. In addition to the operation of a treatment centre, Health Services play many other roles and, in particular, would like to expand the educational aspect of their endeavours. An example of the "outreach" approach is the Health Fair which takes place over two days each February, during which information is disseminated and demonstrations are performed by Health Services' personnel and people from related medical fields. The Loyola group work co-operatively with but independently from the Health Centre on the Sir George Williams Campus. Dr. Breen thanked Ms. Cullen on behalf of Council and called on Ms. Johnstone.
- 80.12.8.2 Ms. Johnstone distributed an information sheet, "Concordia University, Sir George Williams Campus, Health Centre", CCSL 80-12-D4, and commented as follows: The Centre is staffed by three full-time nurses, one part-time nurse and seven doctors who work on a rotational basis. The Mental Health Unit staff consists of two psychiatrists and one of the full-time nurses mentioned above who serves as co-ordinator. Because of its downtown location, excellent community resources are available to the Health Centre which complement the services available on campus. Two problems which concern Ms. Johnstone are: the fact that many part-time students seem to be unaware that Centre services are available to them and the distance between the Health Centre and certain other University buildings which makes attendance in emergencies very difficult. With regard to the latter, an arrangement has been made with the Security Department whereby Health Centre nurses respond to emergencies in a limited area only. In addition, first aid courses are being set up throughout the University so that a trained person will be on hand in all buildings. Other courses sponsored by the Health Centre deal with heart saving and the cardio-pulmonary resuscitation unit.
- 80.12.8.3 In answer to Prof. Allison's question as to what recommendations she might offer as to how the Health Centre could improve its contribution to the quality of student life, Ms. Johnstone replied that additional advertising



in the University media would be beneficial. Another promotional vehicle suggested was Orientation during which the existence of the Centres and the services they provide could be publicized.

- 80.12.8.4 Mr. Lajoie observed that many students do not know how to determine when they are ill and suggested that a pamphlet might be produced outlining the symptoms of some of the complaints which students are prone to develop. Ms. Cullen replied that at one time a column had been run in The Loyola News which offered such basic advice as how to deal with the common cold, and that many pamphlets dealing with particular problems are available. Mr. Burogano observed that the emphasis should be placed on health and how to maintain it, not sickness, and that literature to this end should be available in the Centres for students to peruse while waiting for attention. Another suggestion offered by Mr. Burogano was that a second health fair might be held during the academic year. Ms. Johnstone responded that while it might be possible to put on a mini-version of the original fair, it would be difficult. In that case, Mr. Burogano noted, perhaps the one fair should be held earlier in the year.
- 80.12.8.5 Mr. Sproule complimented the ladies on the fine job being done by both Health Services and enquired as to the possibility of increasing the amount of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation training being done because, as he noted, students as well as staff are aging. This training could be encouraged through the Human Resources Department so that one person in every University department might become competent in this area. Mr. Sproule was informed that Ms. Susan Magor, who has recently been appointed Director of Safety, is arranging for additional courses to be organized.
- 80.12.8.6 Dr. Breen stated that he had visited both Health Centres and had been most impressed in each instance. He went on to note that the Université du Québec à Montréal does not have a health service; the Centre Local de Services Communautaires attends to its needs. As is the case with Concordia, UQAM does not have a medical school and it is reasonable, therefore, to compare our situation with theirs. Could the CLSC play a more active role in Concordia's operation? A second question which the Chairman raised was: what are the differences between the two Services?

Ms. Johnstone noted that the nature of the campuses differs. Sir George Williams does not have residence facilities and students tend to go directly to their courses and then leave the campus. It is probable that Loyola students tend to drop into the Health Services on a more casual basis than they do at Sir George. Ms. Cullen noted that the two Services have the same objectives, but follow different methods. On the Loyola Campus, for instance, patients must see a nurse before consulting with a physician; on the Sir George Williams Campus - which some people prefer - it is possible to be referred directly to a doctor. Mr. Sproule remarked on the difference in physical environment between the Centres. On the Loyola Campus, Health Services has taken over what was Guidance Services' space and now has an excellent, well decorated facility. The situation on the Sir George Williams Campus is not as fortunate. It is not the best arrangement to have graduate students walking back and forth through the Centre.



- 80.12.8.7 With regard to UQAM's dependence on CLSC for health services, Ms. Cullen and Ms. Johnstone agreed it would be a mistake to emulate this example. In the case of Loyola, there is no CLSC facility in the vicinity and, in the case of Sir George Williams, there is a limit to what CLSC can undertake on Concordia's behalf.
- 80.12.8.8 Mr. Lajoie enquired if Health Services' personnel experienced difficulties in communicating with international students. Ms. Cullen acknowledged that problems of language and culture do arise; however, certain methods exist by which they may be overcome. One of the physicians attached to the Loyola facility, by reason of his background, has an excellent rapport with these students. Prof. Macaluso asked that Council members agree to use the phrase "international students" when referring to students from abroad rather than the misleading term "foreign students".
- 80.12.8.9 In response to Mr. Burogano's enquiry regarding abortion, Ms. Cullen replied that it is the Loyola Health Services' policy to concern themselves with the woman involved who has a choice to make and not to advocate any particular alternative. If, after a mandatory one-hour counselling session, a woman decides on abortion, Health Services' personnel will be as supportive as possible.
- 80.12.8.10 On behalf of Council, the Chairman thanked Ms. Cullen and Ms. Johnstone for their excellent presentations.

#### Reports from Directors

- 80.12.9.1 Dean Flynn asked that it be noted that in the fourth paragraph of item 80.11.4.4 on page 5 of the Minutes of Council's 3 November 1980 meeting, the statement: "... CUSA members of Council might want to check on the academic standing of their executives ..." is incorrect. In no way, Dean Flynn said, had he stated or implied that the academically ineligible students of whom he was speaking were or might be connected with the CUSA executive.

The Financial Aid Officers, Dean Flynn went on, will be prepared to present an interim report on their activities in the near future.

Iranian students on the Sir George Williams Campus have recently formed a 267-member club of non-political nature; the Italian students have made a vigorous effort to raise money on behalf of the recent earthquake victims in that country and four students have been named to the Dean of Students' Area Budget Development Working Group, Dean Flynn noted.

One of the major problems with which he is contending, Dean Flynn said, is the disgraceful condition of H-651, a student lounge. Talks are being held with PRET in an attempt to determine how this situation can best be remedied. One suggestion put forward would involve converting H-651 into a program area and seeking other space for mixed lounge use. Mr. Arfin pointed out, however, that what this implies is "kicking the students out" and possibly reducing the number of student lounges on campus. Moreover, even if the



undesirables are removed from H-651, they will undoubtedly find other places to occupy within the University. In discussion which followed, it became apparent that there was agreement as to the unfortunate uses to which the lounge is being put and the deplorable state of its furniture and furnishings. Mr. Revay expressed concern with regard to the fact that people who are not members of the University community make use of the room for various purposes. This led to consideration of the security situation. The question of who has control was not answered, although Dean Flynn pointed out that the Security Department on the Sir George Williams Campus makes no effort to police activities in the lounge. The Chairman stated that he would look into the matter, since there are many questions to which he would like answers. With reference to the general shortage of lounge space on the Sir George Williams Campus, which all members acknowledged, Prof. Macaluso referred to the recommendations made to Council by the Priorities and Budget Committee in February 1979 and suggested that present members of Council might be interested in receiving copies thereof. After much further discussion, Dean Flynn stated that Mr. Ramsay of his staff is consulting with Messrs. Larose and Conway and that a progress report will be made at Council's next meeting.

80.12.9.2 In Mr. Counihan's absence, the Chairman called on Ms. Kerby to report for the Dean of Students, Loyola Campus. Dean Counihan has come through his operation and is recuperating nicely, Ms. Kerby began. Activities in the Loyola Dean's Office include the Christmas basket fund drive which is underway and the annual Christmas concern and a jazz concert planned by the Music Department. All available space on campus has been co-opted for the study period before Christmas examinations and times will be posted. A difficulty the Dean's Office is experiencing, Ms. Kerby noted, is the inaccuracies which appear in the computer data on international students. Finally, she noted, the recent meeting with M. Gilles Lafleur of the Ministry of Education had been very successful.

80.12.9.3 Dr. Enos circulated a document headed "Director's Report", Department of Physical Education & Athletics, December 1, 1980", CCSL 80-12-D5, and so made no verbal comment. Dr. Breen said that a member of the Steering Committee had suggested that if the Directors could provide Council with written reports, it would be very useful.

In response to questions from Mr. Arfin and Mr. Lajoie, Dr. Enos stated that information regarding intra-mural sports is carried regularly by The Link, and Mr. Philip noted that figures on first-term participation in intra-murals will be available in January. Meetings on Concordia's possible use of the Olympic facilities are continuing, Dr. Enos noted.

80.12.9.4 Mr. Sproule reported that operations are proceeding normally in Guidance Services and distributed copies of information on Guidance workshops and programs in the second term to members.

Mr. Revay asked Mr. Sproule about the relationship between Guidance Services and the departmental advisors and was told that no formal structure exists at the present time, although there is some referral back and forth. In response to student initiated requests, Mr. Sproule went on, Guidance Services is doing more academic advising that should be the case. Mr. Revay then asked if anything exists in writing which delineates the responsibilities



of the two areas, to which Mr. Sproule responded that the job description for Guidance Counsellors refers to "educational guidance" as opposed to specific program planning. Often, however, students have to start at "square one". Mr. Lajoie offered his opinion that a long look should be taken at the academic advising operation. In response to his question: "Who are the academic advisors?", Prof. Macaluso referred him to Prof. Mary Baldwin. At one time, Mr. Sproule noted, a formal training program existed for academic advisors which had produced a more integrated approach than is presently the case.

#### Position of Vice-Chairman

- 80.12.10.1 It being agreed that it might be useful for Council to have a Vice-Chairman, Dean Flynn MOVED and Ms. Kerby SECONDED that Council's Steering Committee be asked to elect one of its members as Vice-Chairman. MOTION CARRIED.

As a last note, Dean Flynn said, he wished to mention a Concordia student who had recently been murdered. The Chairman expressed his desire to send a note of condolence to the victim's family and Mr. Ramsay agreed to provide Dr. Breen's office with the pertinent details.

#### Date of Next Meeting

- 80.12.11.1 Because of the Christmas break, Council members agreed that it would not be appropriate to hold the next meeting at its regularly scheduled time, the first Monday in January. Consequently, the next meeting will take place on Monday, January 12, 1981 on the Loyola Campus.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.